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LECTURES

ON THE

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE

OF PHYSIC,

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LECTURE 29.

THE subject of this Lecture will be threefold, viz.:—

Scarlatina, Measles, and *Hooping Cough*,

all of which arise from specific contagions, as the two following facts combinedly show:—

1. If a patient be affected by scarlatina, measles, or hooping-cough, and if that patient be visited by a certain number of persons who have never had scarlatina, measles, or hooping cough, some of them would be attacked by one or other of these distempers to which they chanced to be exposed. It might, however, be said, that this alone does not prove the presence and influence of a specific contagion, because there might be a local taint of atmosphere, arising independently of such patients, in or about the house in which they had been confined and visited. Is there then any other proof? There is, and that seems to be conclusive. If you remove a patient labouring under scarlatina, measles, or hooping cough, into a perfectly fresh atmosphere, each of them is capable of propagating itself, indefinitely, to second and third persons who never have been the subjects of the specific affection before. Where is the man bold enough to say—aye, and to prove this of typhus fever?

The contagion of scarlatina, measles, and hooping cough, like that of small pox, sometimes produce a congestive form of fever; at least I have, occasionally, seen individuals attacked by this form of fever in houses where these affections prevailed, and as I could not trace the congestion to a common cause, I inferred that it was the product of a peculiar cause depressing the vital energy. But although the doctrine of congestive fever is applicable to the influence of the peculiar as well as of the common causes, yet, generally speaking, the operation of the contagion of scarlatina, measles, and hooping cough, is succeeded by the stage of excitement improperly called re-action. In the first instance, all these peculiar agents, for the most part, diminish the heart's action and the animal heat on the surface of the body, but in the end this congestive stage is followed by an increase of both. Sometimes, however, these peculiar agents operate at once as stimulants. To give you an example of this: I have known a child affected by the contagion of scarlatina, in which there was no cold stage at all, the hot one ushering in the attack; but, as in other febrile accessions, there is most frequently paleness, languor, and lassitude in the commencement.

Symptoms of Scarlatina.

Scarlatina, or scarlet fever, is an affection which sometimes arises very rapidly, within about four days after exposure to contagion, and usually, I would say, within eight, nine, or ten days. The precursory symptoms are generally these, a pale skin, a pulse weaker than natural, and some uneasiness about the head, back, or stomach; and there is often some stiffness about the neck, or soreness about the throat. The pulse becomes afterwards quick, and the skin hot

and dry. The efflorescence comes out at various periods after the development of the fever; it often comes out in twenty-four hours, sometimes in 36 or 48 hours, sometimes on the third day, but rarely as late as the fourth. I mention these facts, because the accounts which we have in systematic works on scarlatina are not correct, the efflorescence generally coming out at an earlier period than they have stated. SYDENHAM, the only great practical physician which London has produced with reference to past times—SYDENHAM, I repeat, has described one modification of scarlet fever, which occurs without any sore-throat, and though this be the rarest form of the disorder now, I have occasionally met with it, very clearly, unquestionably defined. For instance, fourteen children were sent into the Hospital having scarlet fever, and thirteen of them had no sore throat. This form might be called simple scarlet fever, with respect to the internal and external pathology, for though the organs are excited, none are positively inflamed. How would you distinguish this efflorescence to be that of scarlatina? In the simple cases, the colour and appearance of the skin more nearly resemble the skin of a boiled lobster than any thing else to which I could compare it. The efflorescence is diffused in broad patches of a bright red; but if you examine them more minutely, you will find that they are made up of minute points running into each other, and thus making the surface florid, especially about the joints. The conjunctiva is more red than natural, and the tongue very often so, particularly near the extremity, with the papillæ red and raised there. The pulse generally ranges from 100 to 110 in young children. The heat of the skin, as indicated by the thermometer, is often about 99 or 100°, yet you have not the combined marks of either an external or internal inflammation. This, then, is the *simple*, or the first form of scarlatina.

There is a second modification of scarlatina which is the *inflammatory*. This nosologists call scarlatina anginosa when the fever is fully developed. It occurs, in many instances, with a remarkably hot skin, a very quick pulse, great thirst, moist furred tongue, red at the tip; in short, at first with an open and ardent form of fever, such as I described to be an attendant sometimes of typhus, and sometimes of small pox. In this highly characterised form of scarlet fever, the throat is inflamed; if you look at the tonsils they appear red and swollen, the inflammation being diffused over the adjacent mucous membrane of the fauces. The fever passes on often under this high character for some days, and after a time specks form in the throat, about the tonsils. But recollect that there are sometimes spots of coagulable lymph, which you must distinguish from slough; the former will be removed by gargling whilst the latter remain after gargling; and if you then throw a strong light into the throat, by the reflection of a good candle on a small mirror, you can discover that they are deep and distinct sloughs of an ash or grey colour. Now after a time this open and ardent fever undergoes a change, the heat falling upon the surface of the body, the pulse becoming subdued, the efflorescence of the skin losing its florid colour, and assuming a dull red or copperish hue. The inflammation has then extended down the air passages, it is in fact the supervention of an intense bronchial affectionwhich has caused the protracted case to put on this peculiar character, this smothered or subdued form of fever.

The older authors confined their attention exclusively to the throat. Their pathology extended no further; but what they lacked of real information, they made up, according to the good old custom, by an abundance of crude conjectures. When the throat became very bad, and when the efflorescence put on a copper cast, they called it not scarlatina anginosa but scarlatina maligna, and pretended that it was then a highly putrid affection. But whenever the efflorescence becomes of a copper hue, it depends upon an intense bronchial inflammation, which sometimes occurs at the beginning, and then the fever at once has a masked and smothered character, in which the tongue becomes glazed, in which the heat of the skin is reduced, in which the pulse be-

comes weak, in which the voice is feeble, and in which the patient demonstrates great loss of muscular power, whatever local disturbances may exist. This form of fever, as I before explained, borrows its peculiarities from the bronchial lining being not only overloaded with blood, but besmeared with an adhesive secretion which prevents the inspired air from coming freely in contact with the blood. The more intense the bronchial affection, the less is the fever developed. Study this special bronchial affection well, trace it through all the disorders in which it appears, and which it modifies, if you wish to avoid the fatality of a conjectural pathology and an empirical practice in specific fevers.

There are then two leading forms of scarlet fever, the simple and inflammatory. The second might be again subdivided into the highly inflammatory and the congesto-inflammatory, in the first of which inflammation of the fauces and bronchial lining takes place with an open and ardent fever, in the last of which with a masked and smothered fever at the beginning. In both the brain and lining of the intestines may become affected. Recollect not to confine your attention merely to the lining of the air passages, but examine into the state of all the internal organs, connecting the symptoms with the pathological conditions, the effects with their causes.

There is an affection which sometimes arises in the progress of scarlatina important to be borne in mind—an inflammation which spreads from the throat along the eustachian tube into the internal ear. It is especially apt to happen when the inflammation of the throat arises early in the progress of the scarlet fever; and in mismanaged cases the inflammation sometimes remains in the internal ear when the inflammation in the throat has subsided. The bones of the ear may then become carious; the petrous portion of the temporal bone may be penetrated by caries, and the dura mater become inflamed, nay, ultimately the brain itself, as I have occasionally seen. But this rarely, very rarely, happens in rightly treated cases. More evils perhaps spring from ignorance than can be remedied by wisdom.

There is another circumstance to be attended to in scarlet fever: patients are sometimes attacked by pains like those of rheumatism, and I believe that exactly the same structures are attacked, and in the same manner, as in rheumatism. The pains are seated about the joints and shoot along the muscles. A man was brought into the hospital labouring under scarlet fever, and this affection in his ancles. He put his feet out of bed one night and exposed them to the cold. The affection left the ancles, and the pericardium became inflamed, so that it undergoes transfers like the common rheumatism arising from cold.

A circumstance has been noticed by continental writers. Little miliary points, small portions of raised cuticle, appear here and there, of a whitish colour, and on this account they have called this form the *scarlatina miliaria*. They are accustomed to make very minute distinctions from such appearances, but this mode of proceeding is not attended with any practical benefit. It ought to be voted frivolous and vexatious. These miliary points are not uncommon, and arise from the excessive heat of the surface.

Treatment.

If you were called to a patient affected with the simple form of scarlet fever, what would you do? The best thing at first, when the skin has become uniformly hot, is to wash the patient all over with tepid water; procure a large shallow tub, a common washing tub, and let the patient sit on a three-legged stool in the middle of it, the feet being covered by warm water; sponge the skin with warm water, then wipe it perfectly dry, and put him to bed between clean sheets. Give about two grains of calomel with a little rhubarb, and a dose of cold drawn castor oil a few hours afterwards. Let the diet be then arrow-root, and the drink cold water; pursue this plan in a cool airy apartment for three or four days, and the patient will generally be convalescent. Be careful not to expose him to cold then, as he might become dropsical. Our

systematic writers have made dropsy almost a necessary consequence of scarlatina, but this is not the fact. I have seen, within the last six years, at least four hundred cases of scarlet fever, and I have only seen a single case in which dropsy occurred, which was owing to my directions being disregarded. The patient crammed himself with new bread, and cold or cramming are its usual causes. Dropsy, so far as I have observed subsequent to scarlet fever, arises often from inattention on the part of the patient, and occasionally from ignorance on the part of the practitioner.

The treatment of the inflammatory scarlet fever must be regulated according to its form. If you are called to a patient in whom the fever is ardently developed, and the throat much inflamed, apply eight or ten leeches to the part; sponge the surface of the body in the way I have mentioned, or pour about two gallons of tepid water at once over the whole surface. In the next place, give a brisk aperient, as a combination of calomel and rhubarb or jalap, followed up by an infusion of senna with sulphate of magnesia. Use a gargle also composed of diluted sulphuric acid with a little syrup; keep the patient at rest in the recumbent posture, and keep him very cool, and on a very spare diet. This is the plan that I usually adopt. Some cases require a more active treatment than this, if the brain or bowels be inflamed, the heat high, and the pulse expanded or hard. In a word, you must bleed, generally or locally, according to the degree of the fever and inflammation, being guided by those principles which I before laid down respecting the removal of the inflammation, which is the main object in such cases. Preserve the vital organs from derangement, and the recovery will be certain, in the ardent form.

With regard to the masked form, in which the bronchial inflammation is intense, attended by a copper-coloured efflorescence, a soft compressible pulse, a glazed tongue; the subdued heat, and a weak respiration, with sloughs about the throat, you must be cautious as to evacuations. If you were to treat it as actively as the other, you would almost invariably be unsuccessful. You must manage it mildly; put on a few leeches, say four or five, to the throat, and if the pulse rises you may repeat them, if the inflammation should require them; but if the pulse sink on a very small loss of blood, do not apply them again. If the skin be cool, lay the patient between blankets, and put a bottle of warm water to the feet. Regulate the temperature of the room by the thermometer; let it be kept about 64° in such cases, the ventilation being free. Give mild doses of calomel joined with small ones of rhubarb, followed up by a little cold drawn castor oil; and let the diet be bland. But be sure to avoid all extraordinary demands upon the strength. About a drachm of the solution of chlorine may frequently be given with advantage in this masked form, in the course of twenty-four hours, mixed with about six ounces of distilled water. Where it irritates the mucous membrane of the intestines, lemon juice may be substituted, a sprinkling of which, being added to the common drink, is often refreshing and grateful. In the advanced stages, the sub-carbonate of ammonia is sometimes useful by determining to the surface, and when the pulse falters, a little wine may be now and then allowed. This masked form of fever is most common in delicate children and adults, and certainly requires a very guarded treatment, particularly in London. But if you have distinctly comprehended the pathological and practical principles which I laid down in typhus fever, you will be at no loss to apply them here. Scarlet fever, however, under its ordinary characters is a milder affection than typhus fever, running a shorter course, and leaving far less prostration. Bating the masked and smothered form, not one case in a hundred ought to be fatal.

Measles.

The first symptoms that appear to usher in an attack of measles are watery eyes, a running nose, occasional sneezing and some degree of cough. These precursory sypmtoms continue for three or four days before the eruption comes out. But I have seen measles occur without being preceded

by any of the catarrhal symptoms; during the last summer, I saw several cases of this kind. There is one thing that you ought to be aware of, namely, patients are sometimes attacked by inflammation of the larynx, before the rash comes out, and they would be in danger of dying from suffocation, if you were to wait until the rash appeared. Sometimes, also, the brain becomes inflamed, before the appearance of the rash; I remember in particular the case of a boy where this happened. You cannot be surprised at this, when you recollect that the excitement is fully developed for two or three days before the rash. The rash of measles generally appears first on the neck, chin, and face, and then gradually spreads to other parts of the body. It has been said that the rash of measles is darker than the efflorescence of scarlet fever, and it is so generally, but not universally. It is true, generally, because the affection of the mucous membrane of the air passages is usually more fully developed in the measles.

Diagnosis.

How would you distinguish *measles* from *scarlatina?* The first thing to remember is the appearance of the catarrhal symptoms in measles, before the eruption. 2. The rash appears in smaller points than in scarlatina, being more like millet seeds, just raised above the level of the skin, and of a dusky hue. 3. The rash of measles differs also materially from the efflorescence of scarlet fever upon the face, it is diffused in broad flashes in the latter, whilst it is invariably in small distinct elevations in the former. 4. In measles, if you look under the throat attentively, you will find small raised red spots upon the soft palate, but in scarlet fever there is a diffused efflorescence over the whole throat, in which such spots are not at all perceptible. 5, There is a peculiar smell in measles, which is not present in scarlet fever.

Pathology.

With respect to the pathology of measles, it is similar, generally, to that which I have described in scarlatina. The fever attending measles generally puts on the inflammatory character, and the inflammation is generally seated about the air passages, especially if the patient be kept hot. I saw several cases sometime ago, where the patients were nearly dying from being kept too hot; the windows were shut, the curtains drawn, and the door never allowed to remain long open. These cases were all evidently developed in the first instance, but they became typhoid from want of fresh air. Then you will recollect, that what I have said about the ardent, or open form of fever, and the smothered or masked form, is applicable to the measles, as well as to scarlatina. The rash of measles usually goes away in three or four days, but it continues longer if the fever be protracted, and this is the case likewise with the efflorescence of scarlatina.

Treatment.

With respect to the medical treatment of measles, I have little to say. If you see a child running about the house who has a slight running at the nose, and a little cough, with scarcely any degree of fever, if you give him a laxative, avoid cold, and adopt a spare diet, he will generally do well without any other means. But if you find the signs of any internal inflammation you must be upon your guard, and treat it according to those rules which I before so repeatedly prescribed, when I spoke of particular inflammations. When the skin is frequently hot and dry, and the pulse round or resisting, blood must be drawn and the patient must be kept upon a strictly antiphlogistic diet. But if you see a patient labouring under the masked form of fever, keep him in bed, surround him with a fresh atmosphere, move his bowels mildly, and be cautious about blood-letting. In such examples those means which at the same time act gently on the bowels and skin are the most efficacious. In measles, as well as in scarlet fever, sometimes the lining of the intestines is inflamed. But do not suppose that this is the case whenever the tongue is red, for that redness is often a part of the efflorescence in the one and the rash in the other. Remember what I before remarked,—do not trust so much to any single symptom, as to a combination of several symp-

toms, in forming an opinion of the seat and nature of the affections.

As a general rule, a neutral temperature is best in the measles, I mean one by which the surface of the body is neither chilled nor heated. But when the skin is universally moist, you should be mindful against currents of cool air, for they are liable to create serious inflammation; on the other hand, when the skin is uniformly hot and dry, a cool atmosphere is delightfully refreshing, and even beneficial by diminishing the excitement. Again and again in most examples of the latter, I have seen the most agreeable changes induced by lessening the temperature of the sick-chamber, and by abstracting a little blood. During convalescence be very careful in measles, about preserving the natural warmth of the skin, chillness of which often tends to pulmonic affections, acute or chronic.

Hooping Cough.

Hooping cough comes on in general like a common catarrh, except that there is seldom a running at the nose. After the lapse commonly of a few days, the cough comes on in fits, and a child, if standing at a distance from a table or chair, will run to them and catch hold to prepare himself for the struggle, as if he has a warning of the fit. There is then a sudden and strange sensation about the larynx; the face becomes turgid, the eyes swollen and red, and the cough is made by several rapid expirations in succession, followed by a long and deep inspiration, accompanied by a peculiar noise called the 'hoop.' These fits of coughing, or hoop, terminate in two ways, either by mucous expectoration, or vomiting, or both. One attack is succeeded by another, and terminates in the same way. This affection is rather alarming when it attacks very young and very delicate children, for such are very liable, likewise, to irritation of the mucous membrane of the intestines, and subsequently to convulsions from a sympathetic affection of the brain. In examining the bodies in fatal cases, I have always found traces of inflammation about the mucous membrane of the larynx, as an intelligent friend has stated in an excellent paper which he has published on the subject; but I have frequently found proofs of inflammation of the mucous lining of the small or large intestines of children, and often an overloaded condition of the pia mater, with some opacity of the arachnoid, and effusion between these membranes, or into the ventricles. The irritation appears to commence first about the larynx, and often spreads down the trachea and bronchia; it next attacks the mucous membrane of the bowels, and lastly the brain becomes affected; at least this is the order which I have most frequently observed. Hooping cough is hardly ever a serious disorder, especially in infants, or very delicate children, where fever and dyspnœa, or difficulty of breathing, are absent; but it is frequently a serious disorder, especially in infants, or very delicate children, where fever and dyspnœa are present. Hooping cough is far more fatal in London than in the country, if I might form an opinion on the subject from my own observation. This, I believe, much depends upon the greater general delicacy of the children, by which the mucous irritations are apt to be more urgent; but I cannot help suspecting, that it principally depends upon the more active treatment that is generally adopted in the British Metropolis. A very common plan is to sicken children, two, three, or more times in the day by ipecacuan or antimony; and I have in many cases distinctly traced the origin of the irritation of the mucous membrane of the bowels to the effect of one or other of these medicines, or to small doses of the prussic acid, and generally the affection of the brain has succeeded, apparently as a consequence. I do not mention these facts as matter of personal censure; men do what they believe is the best; they act according to the rules of received authorities, and such errors of judgment ought to be tenderly regarded in an individual point of view. No man has practised physic without committing many mistakes, and one professional brother should make the lawful allowance for another, who may be as superior in one department as he is inferior in some other to the practitioner who may chance to detect a mistake. My business as a teacher is to warn you against syste-

matic errors, and therefore let me strongly warn you against the common one of giving daily nauseating or emetic doses of antimony or ipecacuan in hooping cough. Generally speaking, if you put the little patients on a bland diet, if in cold weather you place them in a regulated temperature of from about 58° to 64°, if you give them a little mild aperient medicine if necessary, and prevent acidity by a little carbonate of potash or soda, the complaint will leave them in a few weeks. It is often as important to know the extent of our ignorance as of our information. Hooping cough has a sort of determinate duration. If mild weather it lasts about six weeks or two months, but longer in cold weather, unless the children be kept in an artificial kind of warm climate. All attempts to shorten its duration by violent measures are not only fruitless, but commonly very pernicious. Where, however, fever and dyspnœa arise, you must apply the appropriate remedies for the removal of the cause; and when the complaint assumes a chronic character, a change into a fresh and bland air is often attended with the happiest effects. But where that cannot be accomplished, a mild and simple diet, a gentle aperient occasionally, a little carbonate of potash, with a few drops of the tincture of hyoscyamus, and the occasional employment of the tepid bath, often answer an excellent purpose. If you wish to shorten a chronic hooping cough, keep the functions of the skin right, and avoid irritating the mucous membrane of the alimentary canal.

For want of time I have been compelled to put these important subjects into one lecture, and have therefore given you an imperfect view of each of them; but in my next course of lectures I shall, if possible, devote a separate lecture to each of these specific affections.

ERRATUM.

In Dr. ARMSTRONG's last Lecture, p. 294, for—"the eruption is more regular as to its time," read, the eruption is more *irregular* as to its time.

LECTURES
ON
PHRENOLOGY,
BY
DR. SPURZHEIM.

LECTURE 9.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I COME to-day to a very important *application of phrenology*, namely, to *Education*.

Look at man in general, and see what a wretched state he is in, he requires to be treated almost as a child, and yet writers have told us, that the world wishes for education.

Many books have been written on education, whole libraries have been compiled, various institutions established, yet very little improvement has taken place. Can man be perfected by education, or can he not? It is certain that the improvement is not proportionate to the trouble which some individuals have taken. Therefore I repeat, can man be perfected or not? Or shall he remain eternally what he is? In speaking of the perfection of man, I do not mean to say that man can, by any power whatever, acquire any one of the fundamental powers of the mind, because the number of them is determinate; but the question is, whether these powers can become more or less active, and whether they can be directed in a way likely to be most useful to the individual? Commonly, in speaking of education, it is divided into two parts, physical and moral. Since we admit that the moral part of man, or, in other words, the mental part, depends upon the organization, and since we do not admit of any influence independent of the cerebral organization, I do not like this division, and therefore shall not speak of it.

However, I shall speak of education under two heads. I shall first examine how far it is possible to give more or less activity to the fundamental powers with which man

is endowed, since we admit in phrenology that man has received from the hands of the Creator a certain number of powers, and that these powers are manifested under certain conditions. Now we see that many powers are more active than others, and that, in a general way, the animal powers are more active than the powers proper to man. Is it possible to give more or less activity to the individual powers? that will be the first question.

I shall, *secondly*, examine how far it is possible to direct these powers? What shall we do if we find persons born more active than others? There are various conditions which must be observed. Man is a created being, and he must be studied in the same way as all other created beings, by observation. Nature makes no exception to her general laws, although we wish to make exceptions much more frequently than is necessary. Although the subject may appear delicate, I shall insist upon it. Man must be improved in many respects, as all other created beings. Are we not sure to have good cattle, a good breed of any description, by attending to certain conditions; but are we sure of having good children. We can calculate in a general way that we shall succeed just as we like with animals, but can any one say I will have such and such children? We are the rulers of nature; man knows that he must submit to certain conditions, for he does not find that he can create, hence he submits to conditions. With respect to his own race, he thinks he is capable of making exceptions, and he is punished for his pride. The matter is delicate, and I shall inquire only into the laws of creation. With respect to our being, we must submit to the will of our Heavenly Father, but we wish to become the masters. If an agriculturist wishes to cultivate plants, trees, and fruits, how does he proceed? Does he not train his trees, and place them in certain situations favourable for his purpose, and he is sure to succeed. To come to animals, we know that they are submitted to certain natural laws, and these laws must be submitted to trials. I come to the most delicate point that can be conceived by those who have attended to the laws of the body. Now it is certain that the whole constitution is propagated from parents to children, and you may perceive that I allude to the laws of propagation. This is the most important of any thing a man can attend to; and if the time should come when the laws of propagation shall be attended to, more good will be done to perfect man, than hitherto has been done by all the institutions, and by all the teachers, of the present or past ages, not only with respect to individuals, but families and nations. The body has its laws, and if the manifestations of the mind depend upon the body, the laws of the body must be observed, if we wish to arrive at a perfection of form, or of the endowments of the mind. The ancient legislators were all aware of this, and the ancient Spartans were celebrated for their symmetry and strength; but I shall not enter into the subject here; I merely call your attention to it to show that we must submit to certain natural laws. The body, you see, has its laws, and are there not various hereditary diseases? But we look to a fine form and to money, and forget all the other things. People are satisfied with a fine figure and money, I say; very well, do not complain of the consequences even with respect to intellectual powers; but if you regard merely the physical development, something more than money and a fine figure must be attended to. Some beings appear born for each other, but the longer they are together the less they like each other. (A laugh.) I shall merely enter into this matter in a general way. The powers wish to be satisfied, and as some of these powers are active, and find they cannot be satisfied, then the parties are displeased, and even when persons live together in society, and find the powers cannot be satisfied, they are displeased. A villain does not like to see an honest man, and a just man does not like one who is unjust. Every one must know his own powers, and he must look for the same powers in another, and then such persons will live in peace. Moreover, the diseases of the body exist, and have an influence on the children, and if every one will reflect

for himself, he must see that there are certain configurations propagated from parents to offspring, and if parents have small brains, small brains will come. There are talents in all families, but are there certain faculties more active in certain families? You will, perhaps, be inclined to admit that there are. Now if you see persons who in the third generation have a great tendency to become consumptive, and perhaps like their predecessors die of consumption, do you think that Moses was right in preventing promiscuous marriages with even the third and fourth generations of such families? The ancient legislators attended to the laws of propagation and degeneration. Some families intermarry with each other, and have you been attentive to the result, a result attempted to be guarded against by the Mosaic law? Degeneration is the consequence. What do you do in nature? Does the naturalist continually sow the same seed? Does the same tree thrive in the same soil, or does he find it necessary to change the seed and change the soil? Does he not find it necessary to cross the breed in animals, if he wish to preserve the integrity of the race? But nothing of the kind is attended to in men. I might go so far and ask, whether those families in which the breed is crossed, show more talents than those in which it is not? Or I might perhaps even go to nations. Those who have the opportunities of observing will see that the human form is influenced, and that the feelings and intellectual powers are modified by certain conditions, and thus we arrive at the confirmation of that with which we set out, that the human form does change and must change.

I come to the second consideration, or to that which is commonly called physical education, but since this is spoken of in many books, I shall say nothing of it. As soon as a child is born, and even before, the physical education must be attended to, for if proper nourishment be not afforded, the brain will not be developed with vigour, no more than other parts of the body. There are some who say, that the milk by which a child is nourished can give certain dispositions, but I doubt it. I say, that if the milk could produce such results, then many adults might be excused if they returned to their original article of diet. (A laugh.) You may feed a child with the milk of other animals, but that will not produce in it the feelings of those animals. Perhaps we may presume that the climate has an influence on the constitution. The climate is often spoken of, and, in treating of the intellectual powers, I admit the influence of climate in producing peculiarities of organization, inasmuch as some climates are more unfavourable to the growth of the body than others; and that it may encourage the development of certain powers, and retard others. I can conceive, that in the milder climates the intellectual powers are calculated to act with more activity, and so far I am disposed to admit the influence of climate on that power. Nourishment, then, contributes to the greater development of the individual organs, and as some climates also favour the growth, and since the powers depend upon the organization for their perfect action, we can see how, in a secondary way, the mind depends upon the climate; but climate is not every thing. Is it, however, merely climate that makes the difference between the Hindoos and English? or is it done by propagation? The Jews are distributed all over Europe, but have they changed their features; they are so peculiar, that they may be known from every other people, and what is rather singular, even the two tribes of Judah and Benjamin may be distinguished from each other, although many thousand years have elapsed since their separation.

How many years are necessary to change the constitution and the powers of man, the laws of propagation being attended to? Perhaps it may be that certain aliments are more congenial to certain parts of our bodies; we observe the influence of various agents on the nervous, vascular, and muscular systems, and this is a point to be attended to, to see if something more cannot be done for the education of the mental powers, by phrenology, than has hitherto been done. I

come now to another point which is little understood, although apparently so simple, I mean the *exercise of the powers.* We must admit that our powers may be exercised, and that they may be made stronger by exercise. We can do so with the muscular actions and we can do the same with the external senses. Every power being exercised acquires more strength, hence, if we wish to give more activity to the intellectual faculties, let them be exercised and they will become stronger. If they be too strong, let them be quiet, and if not strong enough, exercise them. But this is not done by the present mode of education, and this serves to show that the fundamental powers of the mind are not understood. Teachers complain that they cannot cultivate the feelings so much as the intellectual powers; that may be; if a proper method only be adopted, they may be exercised even more than the intellectual, but not in the way now done. Suppose I see an individual who has a perfect figure and good muscular action, and I wish him to become a rope dancer; I say to him, here is a book on rope dancing, you will learn from this how to exercise your muscles, how to acquire the art of balancing, read it through very carefully, and in the end I hope you will be a good rope dancer; I would say to another, here is a treatise on music, read it through, it is a perfect treatise, learn it by heart and you will become a good musician; to another I say, here is a work on painting, you will learn from it how to mix colours, and in the end you will become a good painter; but give the would-be rope dancer no exercise, let the young musician hear no tunes, and let the young painter see no colours, and will the education produce the intended effect?

Again, we have works written upon the feelings; we are told to have charity, to cultivate veneration and benevolence, and children are made to learn them by heart; by doing so the verbal memory merely is exercised, but the feelings remain as before. Exercise is the putting into action. Speak to a child of hunger and thirst, and give him very correct explanations of the terms, yet he will never know what they are by such explanations; but give him little to eat and to drink and he will soon know what they are. Say nothing about benevolence and charity to a child, and take him to see poor suffering beings and make him suffer a little also, and he will soon learn what benevolence and charity are. The powers must be put into action, and when you recollect that there are thirty-five powers to be exercised, you will see the importance of attending to this mode of education. In the same way the reflective powers may be exercised. Each power must be exercised for itself in order to perfect it, and it can never be done by exercising another power. In learning by heart, the reflective powers are not exercised, only a mere verbal memory; words are retained without any ideas being attached to them. Now it is an important point in education to know, what degree of exercise to give to each power, not too much nor too little, but just as much as it can bear without fatigue; just as some persons can walk two miles, others only one, and others again are fatigued with half a mile. The powers being individually more or less active, let them be exercised according to the degree of their natural strength. We are sometimes astonished at the premature genius displayed by some children; the talent is encouraged too rapidly, it reaches speedily to the highest degree and then as suddenly sinks. Whenever you see great powers manifested by children, take care that you do not too rapidly exhaust them. It is a general rule, that the weaker children are the more precose, and they often die, too, soon; but the object should be rather to repress that inordinate activity of the talents, and manage the growth and support the animal powers a little more, and then the future man will, with a strong body, display powerfully the manifestations of the mind. It is a saying of the ancients, "mens sana in corpore sano," and the body must be attended to, and the period for exciting the intellectual powers must be attended to. All teachers must be aware, that one power becomes active at one period and ano-

ther at another, but see here what can be done by education. We have shown that the organs of individuality and sensuality are first active among the intellectual powers, and we observe how anxious children are to acquire a knowledge of the beings around them. They look attentively to things around them, and endeavour to become acquainted with their nature and qualities, and then they begin to pay attention to signs and words; but in the ordinary mode of education, words and signs are attended to and the meaning is lost sight of. You will see some children amused with learning words, whilst others will look for plants, and stones, and minerals, and so on, and are better pleased with them than books, but then the master comes and punishes them for their talent, and makes them go to school to learn Latin and Greek. The powers may each be cultivated by attending to circumstances; and some situations and pursuits are more favourable to the exercise of certain powers than others. A man may study the ancient languages and may succeed very well with them, but must every man be a classical scholar to become a great man? Or can you exercise reason, that is to say, the powers of comparison and causality in any other way than by learning languages. You may see a great mathematician, a man of deep mind perhaps, will you say that every man must study mathematics in order to obtain a reflective mind? I say that comparison and causality may be exercised in mathematics as well as in languages; but might they be exercised in any other way, by natural history or various branches of philosophy? But shall we condemn an individual to learn Latin and Greek if the power of language be very small, and who will never become a good scholar? We should know the value of all the powers, and cultivate them, but not make every man cultivate them in the same way. If a man have the powers of language large, let him study the ancient and modern languages; and which are the most useful? I am very sorry to say that we judge of a man, who has received a liberal education, by his edge of Latin and Greek rather than if he have cultivated his own language. I should like to know whether the modern languages have the same spirit as the ancient, whether we write English as they formerly wrote Greek. But do not misunderstand me; I have no objection to any branch of knowledge, but my observations are now limited to children. Do not let the useful knowledge be neglected; if there are many powers let them all be exercised, I have no objection to that, but let the powers which exist, provided they are but few, be cultivated in reference to the future destinies of the individual, by which they may be made most useful to him. Every power must be exercised for itself, but I would ask, whether every man must study mathematics to become a preacher of morality and religion, or even to become a medical man? If this be true, after the necessary knowledge has been acquired, let the other subjects be studied. Whilst all the books were written in Latin it was necessary to know that language, and if a man wish to read the doctrines of physic in the original language, as by HIPPOCRATES, he must learn Greek, and so it will be necessary to learn the modern, more particularly the French and German; and comparison and causality may be exercised by each.

One observation more with respect to exercise. Is it probable that the individual organs of the cerebral functions increase by exercise? I admit that the brain is an organised part, and submitted to natural laws in common with every other part of the body; it is nourished by the circulation of the blood, and there is more blood runs to it than to any part of the body of equal size; and in proportion as any part is exercised, so there is more blood sent to it and it is found to increase in size, but this is not the most important thing. The faculties show more energy by exercise, and a greater energy if the volume of the organ increases; there is no ratio between increase of activity of a faculty and the increase in bulk of the organ. The muscular power may be increased wonderfully by daily exercise, and a person may, by exercise, be able to accomplish a jour-

ney which he would not at first have dared to attempt; but there is no proportional increase in bulk. The fibres of the brain become also strengthened by exercise. Do not teachers find, that when children return from the holidays for four or five weeks that they are not able to get through the same lessons which they did when they left school? It requires some time for them to come in again, and then there is activity. Exercise has some influence on the development of the organ, but its greatest influence is on its degree of activity. Hence then the point should be to attend to the exercise of the fundamental powers, and to exercise each power for itself.

I come to another consideration which contributes to give greater activity, which is that of the *mutual influence of the powers*. Many powers are always active by their natural energy, and we may excite others by them. We all know what emulation is; the love of approbation is put into exercise to excite other powers, to give activity to them. The love of approbation may be excited to make a soldier fight; it may be employed to excite benevolence, and even in this way we may employ one power to excite another. The solicitation of the powers belongs, in a great measure, to the science of *Mnemonics*, namely, that of one power exciting another. Now what is *memory*, according to phrenology, but a higher degree of activity in the individual intellectual powers. Those who teach this art take first one power and then combine it with others. Suppose we see a certain object which recals to the mind the recollection of something which ought to be done; this is an example of what may be done by mnemonics. I knew a gentleman who told me that he could never think of any thing without colour. I should say, that in him the organ of colour would be the exciting organ for the exercise of mnemonics. Then comes the intellectual powers, and then we have to try how these can be brought together in order to excite or prevent the others, and to do this phrenology must be perfectly understood. Then we have to set the animal feelings against the feelings proper to man; the feelings against the intellect, and the intellect against the feelings, and the feelings against themselves. These then are the four means of giving more or less activity.

Let us proceed to the second part of education, to the *direction of the powers*. How shall we direct them? Shall the animal predominate, or shall man at once become the master; I would say, let the powers be employed under the direction of man, let all the other powers be subservient to such as are proper to man; these must be guided, or they must guide. Veneration is not to go alone, nor benevolence alone, but they must go altogether. I know that this will be a long time in performing, if it be accomplished, but I consider that in all situations this direction is important to the happiness of man, and as long as the animal feelings remain unsubdued, so long will the misery of mankind continue. Hence we want to know how it is to be accomplished. We must all be aware, that every one in infancy acts by motives; and if you wish children or adults to act in a certain way, you must present some motive to them. Now although the powers are essentially the same in the mind of every man, yet as some powers are inclined to be more active than others, the same motives will not succeed with all. To some, the mere justice of an act may be a sufficient motive to perform it; others must have different motives; they would not look to conscientiousness only, they would be inclined to act with acquisitiveness, and so with the rest. There are various motives, and these differ in their influence on individuals, according to circumstances. As we are directed by the apostolic maxim to adapt ourselves in our conduct to the capacities of others, and be all things to all men, so it would be of no use to me to speak to any one of causality. If people were to consider this subject more, much of the time thrown away in education might be saved. We must know that the motives are active according to the degree of the different feelings, then we must know that each power gives a tendency to an action, and that

these tendencies must not be confounded with their application. I have seen a child very proud; the parents prohibited him from commanding the servants, and told him he must be kind to the servants, and this child has the power of commanding very strong, and when that is the case, I should say, take care, and you should take further measures to prevent it. We often lament the influence of vanity in the adult, but we forget that it exists in children: if we praise a child for his fine *air*, his fine dancing, and compliments, do not praise him too much, and do not flatter him too much; it is often, by encouraging little things, that habits become confirmed. If you see a child inclined to tell lies or fibs, as they are called, in joke, do not encourage such fibs, for if you do, he will grow up a confirmed liar. A child may begin by stealing an apple, and afterwards other things of more consequence. Do not let the powers in their direction be confounded with their application. As soon as a power becomes too active, exercise a check over it, by exciting another power, and then do not confound the power with its application.

Another important object to be attended to in education is, that every individual is endowed with different degrees of faculties, that is, a great study, and that education gives no power, therefore we have to cultivate the powers as they exist. We lament very much in society that so many things are done as they are; we find even that education does not control sufficiently the natural propensities, even in those persons who have strong intellectual talents. It must be borne in mind, that the powers are given, and that education, although it may, if properly directed, cultivate the powers, that it can never create them. Again, the powers being observed, should be directed into a proper channel, and this can never be done, until persons are acquainted with the nature of the fundamental powers of the mind. A man may be a good mathematician, but a bad moralist, and yet such a man is brought up to the church, and you know there are many preachers who say you must do as I say, and not as I do. Persons fitted by nature for soldiers are brought up to the gown, and the reverse. Employ every individual according to his natural gifts. The priests, who, during the dark ages, had the management of education, knew the importance of attending to this, and they directed the youths submitted to their care into such pursuits as they saw they were best fitted for. I am obliged to give but a general view of education, and so far I have fulfilled my promise; but before I take leave, let me remind you of the difference between the dispositions of the mind, of which I have spoken, and the actions of man. As far as examining the dispositions may go, I would say that you can judge of them by the general size of the head, and by the constitution, and you will be able to judge of their activity by the natural language before described. But if you dare to speak of actions, as beginners in phrenology are disposed to do, or to arrive at a knowledge of character, then you must not only consider the size and other conditions, but you must take into account all the particulars, such as natural dispositions, exercise, their mutual influence, and the exciting causes. Do not confound the powers with their applications, and I am satisfied, that whoever studies phrenology will be convinced that it is a science founded on nature, and will prove beneficial to mankind.

REVIEW.

Shaw and Bampfield on Spinal Distortions.

[*Concluded from our last Number.*]

In the second division of his work, Mr. Shaw has favoured us with a description of what is termed "lateral curvature," which we are gravely informed implies no less than that the spine is *crooked*—at least Mr. Shaw says, that "the spine will be found to be *curved* nearly in the form (mag-

an componere parvis) of the italic letter *f*," in fact, as crooked as a ram's horn, and any one who sees such a spine may be certain of its being laterally curved, or at least he will admit that Mr. SHAW has demonstrated the *probability* of its being so; therefore, gentle reader, thou wilt in future say, that a crooked thing *is a crooked thing!* and not, as some people absurdly suppose, a *straight* one. The author modestly calls this division of his work "a chapter," and so it certainly is, inasmuch as the printers of Messrs. Longman have rendered it so, but the author, God mend him, may as well have called it a lateral curvature, or any other lateral thing, or mode, or embodyment, as a chapter; it is only so on the principle of *lucus*, "from no light"—*caput*, from no head. &c. Still, however, it is in some respects a *chapter*, for it has both a beginning and an end, and, thanks be to Mr. SHAW, they are very near together. He concludes by telling us, that there is a "great discrepancy of opinion," upon some subject or other, by hinting at what he would be at in the next chapter, and that it is "*natural* to suppose" so and so, meaning of course that it is a custom with *naturals* to suppose so, viz. to act the midwife "to an incorrect idea." p. 57. Here we took our *siesta*, or afternoon's nap, and dreamed of the days of our boyhood, the Latin grammar, the Colloquies of Erasmus, and the second book of the Iliad, where, by the bye, HOMER says something about distortions, although, as we confess, nothing of lateral curvature. But no matter; we cast our eyes on the following admirable specimen of modern sophistry:—

"If we examine a number of school-boys, we shall find many of them with slight distortions of the spine, the marks of which are chiefly observable in the condition of one of the shoulders; the right being generally larger or further removed from the spine than the left. If we notice the position of the boys while they are repeating their lessons, we shall observe that the greater number balance themselves on the left foot. As a natural consequence of this position, there is a slight curve of the whole spine; and although it be especially observable in the part between the shoulders forming a convexity towards the right side, still, on examining the lumbar portion of the column, we shall generally find a corresponding convexity towards the left. On further inquiry we shall probably learn that the boys, who by long continuance in this habit of standing have become slightly distorted, also sit in a twisted position while writing, the right shoulder being more elevated than the left (as seen in the sketch of the girl writing); and that they also use the right arm in preference to the left more than boys naturally do.

The slight distortion, consequent upon the above causes, will be much increased if the boy sleeps on a soft feather-bed, and with a high pillow; for he will naturally lie on the right side. The effect of this position in bed is also illustrated by a marginal plate in the volume of plates.

Although a boy may be all the while in good health, the causes just enumerated are sufficient to produce a slight distortion of the spine. But if he be *permitted* to run freely about for some time, and if *proper attention* be paid to his figure, (that is if Mr. SHAW be consulted,) he will quickly become quite straight; while, if the distortion be neglected, or if the boy should fall into bad health, or enter a profession in which he is much confined to one position, then the curves will rapidly increase, and have all the characters of the distortion so common among girls."

Boys are not commonly addicted to the vicious practice of standing upon *one* leg, nor does it happen that they stand *still* long upon *two*, they seem to possess in a marked degree the *organ* of *locomotiveness*; the disposition to travel (over the play-ground of course), as Dr. SPURZHEIM would say, is much developed. Idle, impudent dogs, they never stand upon one leg (except in performing the *gymnastic* exercises which Mr. SHAW talks about). Oh, no, the "game is up," and, swift as Camilla, the foot-ball skims the plain, and with more than *professional* dexterity and expedition are the apples of farmers accommodated to the empty bellies of these antelopes. Stand still, indeed! and on one leg! Why we should just as soon expect that a roe-buck would learn Greek, or that Mr. SHAW, belonging as he does to a book-making family, should not have proved a "gift-horse" and *per noctem plurima volvens*, have written books, although there be nothing in them. Oh, says Mr. SHAW, they stand still to "repeat their lessons," (do boys commonly *repeat** their lessons? We think not; *once* for all, is the maxim, no *repetition*,) which is true enough; but the twenty-fourth part of their time is not so occupied, which can scarcely be urged as sufficient to mould their *spines* into deformity, or even to produce the lateral curvature. Mr. SHAW, however, infers, that "by long continuance of this habit of standing," the boys are also disposed "to sit in a twisted position," and thus become deformed. But hear what Mr. SHAW says of tailors, who constantly sit with "body bent." Nature, it appears, had found out a remedy for the tailor, the most important of artists (excepting, of course, surgeons) of our day.

"The manner in which a tailor holds his body when he walks, proves that there is something in his habits which tends to the correction of a stoop; for he is quite a caricature of a strutting erect figure, especially in the way he bends in his loins and carries his head."

And if nature sets up this salutary action to relieve the tailor, who sits *all* day, why does she withhold her bounty from the poor school-boy who stands (still) so little, and by consequence *stands* but little, or not at all, in need of her assistance? Of all *standing* men, the merchants and brokers on the Royal Exchange are most distinguished, and they almost universally *stand* in the manner described by our author (not to repeat *their lessons*, to be sure, but to procure the means of making their children do it,) yet these men are as free from spinal distortions as the first regiment of Life Guards. But we are *standing* upon an argument that cannot *stand* or "balance itself on the left foot," as having none. Our friend ABERNETHY would talk of the *digestive* organs, and we agree with him in so far, that the cause may be found in the digestives, as having little to digest, for most *scholastic* kitchens are lamentably deficient in digestible materials, and differ *toto cœlo* from

* Mr. SHAW may, however, be right, upon the authority of PLINY, "*repetere sermonem*."

the kitchens of monasteries, or those of the MARQUIS of HERTFORD.

Mr. SHAW's opinions of the cause of lateral curvature among schoolboys are extremely *ingenious;* but truly they are nothing more. Mr. BAMFFIELD is much disposed to deal in truisms rather than hypotheses, e. g. p. 208. "An *inequality* of the length of the extremities may be produced by the blighted or diminutive growth of one of them." The truth of this position will not be denied; and again, that "the *inequality* of length and size of the extremities may arise from the *extraordinary* development of one of them" is equally correct. In such cases it is usual to wear "a shoe on the shorter extremity with a sole as much thicker as the other extremity is longer, by which the body will be placed in equilibrium, and both extremities brought on a level." —p. 209. Mr. SHAW next enters into an examination "of the opinions on the causes of lateral curvature of the spine." And first, "On the opinion that distortion is caused by an irregular action of the muscles of the spine." This view of the subject is of ancient date, and has latterly become very prevalent in Germany and in this country. Mr. SHAW, however, discards the theory, and principally for the following reasons:—

"As the part of the spine between the origins and insertions of these muscles," says he, "is almost invariably curved in two opposite directions, before we can agree in the opinion that lateral distortion depends on the irregular action of the muscles, we must believe that the lower portion of the muscle on the one side, may be in forcible and unnatural action, while its upper part is relaxed; and that in the muscle of the other side, the reverse takes place. But this cannot be admitted; and, indeed, the more the theory is inquired into, the more erroneous it will be found to be. If the distortion depended on an undue action of the muscles of one side of the spine over those of the other, the curve would be always in the form of a single arch, instead of its being of a serpentine shape, as it generally is, between the points from which the muscles arise, and those into which they are inserted. It has been stated, by way of argument in favour of the opinion, that the muscles on the concave side of the curve are stronger than those of the other; but I suspect that this statement is not founded on proofs derived from an examination of the muscles in the dead body, for I have found those on the convex side to be the largest. Indeed, there is one circumstance, in the condition of the nerves of a distorted spine, which would induce us to believe that the muscles on the concave side would be even more deficient in energy than those on the convex side; for the nerves which pass to them, are diminished to less than one half their natural size.

The idea, that the muscles on the concave side are the strongest, has perhaps originated in the fulness produced by the projection of the transverse processes and bodies of the lumbar vertebræ having been mistaken for increased muscularity. In cases similar to that represented in the second plate, this appearance has been pointed out to me, as a proof of the correctness of the above theory.

The practice which has been proposed in Germany, to counteract the supposed undue action of the muscles, is, to anoint those on the contracted side with softening and relaxing unguents, such as goose-grease, &c.; while the weak muscles on the other side are to be rubbed with spirits and strengthening liniments.*

* See "Ueber die Verkrümmungen des Menslichen körpers und eine rationelle und sichere heilart derselben. Von Dr. Johann Christian Gottfried Jörg." Leipsic, 1816.

He concludes, that lateral curvature is never "caused by a disease of the muscles," and yet he tells us in another place (p. 19), that "the most probable source of many distortions is either in *the cessation of the actions of some particular parts, or in the undue and partial exercise* of others;" and again (p. 14), "*weakness* of the muscles is *therefore* one of the most *frequent forerunners* of distortion." Here is an obvious contradiction.

"Is lateral curvature ever consequent upon dislocation of the vertebræ?" next inquires Mr. SHAW, which, in unison with the opinions of the best informed of the profession, is decided in the negative. Sir A. COOPER expressly states, (and he had great opportunities of investigating the subject,) that he has "never met with a single instance of simple dislocation of the vertebræ, they having all proved to be fractures with displacement." On this subject, Mr. SHAW says,—

"Although there is no instance on record, of dislocation of the vertebræ producing distortion, but also the evidence of the first authorities, in proof that the accident of displacement of the vertebræ without fracture scarcely ever occurs, still the opinion, that dislocation is a common cause of distortion, is received and acted upon."

And Mr. BAMPFIELD,—

"It has indeed been stated by a late writer* on spinal diseases, that he 'has met with many examples of luxation in the dorsal vertebræ, from a gradual enlargement of the articulatory fibres,' and he quotes the case of Pratt, of Camden Town, in whom 'the 1st lumbar vertebra was found wholly dislocated, and driven into the left loin,' where it had remained, at least, ten months, without occasioning death! It is a very curious fact, that of three medical gentlemen who have published accounts of this boy's case, each should give a different version of it.

The boy, say Mr. C. BELL and Mr. SHAW, was knocked down by a stage coach, 'the Hampstead,' says the latter, and '13 months after died of croup.' Dr. E. HARRISON considers it a case of spinal curvature, arising from complete dislocation of the first lumbar vertebra.

Mr. SHAW says, 'the correctness of the following statement is proved by the preparation. There is a *fracture in a horizontal line, in the middle of the first lumbar vertebra, the lower half continuing attached to the other lumbar vertebræ, the upper to the dorsal.* The two portions are united together obliquely, by a ligamentous matter, so that, at this part, there is *an appearance of dislocation*; but there is not the slightest displacement of any of the other vertebræ. The spinal marrow is completely destroyed at the fractured part.'† Mr. C. BELL's statement of this case widely differs from the above. 'I now place in your hands a very remarkable specimen of *dislocation of the bodies of the vertebræ.* The child was knocked down by a stage coach, and the separation has taken place between the lowest dorsal, and uppermost lumbar vertebræ. *The dislocation, you perceive, is complete.* It may be objected to this statement, that a very small portion of the bone has been broken off; but, the circumstance of real importance is, the tearing asunder of the spinal narrow;—it has been divided and separated. Notwithstanding this extraordinary violence, the child survived, and 13 months after the accident died of croup.' In Mr. BELL's plate of this injury, he delineates 'a strong ligament which now *unites the displaced vertebræ* in their new relation.'

* Dr. E. Harrison. See Med. and Phys. Journal for Nov. 1821.

† Shaw on Lateral Distortions, p. 75-77.

Dr. HARRISON states, that the first lumbar vertebra is wholly separated from the lowest dorsal, and the second lumbar vertebra, and is driven into the left loin. Mr. C. BELL says *the dislocation is complete*, but does not represent a total separation of one vertebra from its connection with those above and below it, as Dr. H. does, and he admits a very small portion of the bone to have been broken off. Mr. SHAW 'could not discover any dislocation,' but says, 'there is *a fracture in a horizontal line in the middle of the first lumbar vertebra, the lower half continuing attached to the other lumbar vertebra, the upper to the dorsal.*' The two portions are united by a ligamentous matter.

"Non nostrum inter vos tantas componere lites."—VIRG.

It may not be singular that Dr. HARRISON should differ from Messrs. BELL and SHAW, but 'it is passing strange,' that the latter gentlemen should jointly possess the morbid specimen; *should be teachers in the same school of anatomy and surgery*; and yet *describe it so widely different, that one states it to be 'a complete dislocation,' and the other, a complete fracture without any dislocation.* This case cannot be allowed to invalidate the opinion, that dislocation of the dorsal and lumbar vertebræ rarely, if ever, occurs without vertebral fracture being, at the same time, induced.

Be this as it may, neither dissection of the dead, nor the appearances of the living, affected with spinal distortions and diseases, nor the museum specimens, have disclosed to me the state of luxation or subluxation, which Dr. E. Harrison considers the cause of spinal curvatures, although my opportunities of performing necrotomy in such cases have been frequent."—Bampfield, pp. 279, 280, 281.

Is spinal distortion caused by disease of the vertebræ? Here Mr. SHAW's theory of inaction is again thrust forward, and we think very foolishly: "The wasted appearance of the muscles," says he, "which is occasionally observable in cases of lateral curvature, and which has been confounded with their state during the inflammatory stage of the carious diseases of the spine, also depends on the same causes as the softening of the bones." (To wit, want of exercise!!!)—Shaw, p. 94.

At page 124, we are favoured with sundry speculations in the form of aphorisms, of which it is only necessary to say, that, like most of the author's pathological opinions, they are of little value. His practical principles are good, and as both authors agree pretty nearly in their plans of treatment, we shall hasten to a close by observing, that the various diagrams of apparatus with which both performances abound, can only be duly appreciated by inspection. Perhaps we should apologize to Mr. BAMPFIELD for the slight sketch we have been enabled to furnish of *his* pathological opinions, which omission has been occasioned solely by the general nature of his work, which we have great pleasure in recommending to the notice of our readers. Mr. SHAW's plates are well executed, but his style of writing is clumsy and inaccurate, and Mr. BAMPFIELD is in some respects bombastic, which he will do well to correct in a subsequent edition. The opening sentence of the first chapter, for instance, is almost a literal translation from OVID, and, what is worse, is inserted without acknowledgment.

THE METROPOLITAN HOSTITAL SYSTEM,

And more particularly of ST. GNORGE'S HOSPITAL.

WHEN Buonaparte called us a nation of shopkeepers he did but half express our *actual* avocations; but had he said we were a nation of JOBBERS, he would have described with more than geometrical accuracy what we really *were*, what we *are*, and (as it would appear) what we always shall be—JOBBERS.

The recent transactions near Hyde Park corner are, therefore, not to be wondered at, for although there be no *innate* ideas, yet there certainly are *innate principles*, (not of surgery, Messrs. JOBBERS and Sir EVERARD,) and one of those innate principles or instincts is what VIRGIL calls the *auri sacra fames*, which is neither more nor less than the disposition to *job*. Our readers, however, may call it what they please, whilst we shall proceed to speak of the Hospital System, which is, as all know, making a job of CHARITY, the most noble attribute of our nature, and without which we are told all other actions are "nothing worth." Be it known to all, then, that a particular and mischievous system extensively obtains, that surgery is *indigenous* to our Metropolitan Hospitals, and blooms only "neath London skies." That it is fostered only by our *Royal* College, that it "runs in the blood" like the King's evil, but may nevertheless be conveyed to a few (and, alas! but few indeed) by inoculation! provided the operation be performed by the Senior Surgeon of one of these Hospitals, who, with a few exceptions, will generally be found at the same time the most ignorant. Another way in which it may be learned, is by apprenticeship to a Hospital Surgeon, and the extent of a young man's acquirements will be estimated exactly in an inverse ratio to his diligence. If, added to this commendable indolence he be extremely slow and stupid, he will in process of time become a lecturer, and at last a Hospital Surgeon himself; but if, on the contrary, he be a well educated man, and have studied his profession with ardour, he must be sure to conceal his knowledge, or he will never succeed to the highest honours. Upon the whole, dulness is better, for if a man be *cursed* with abilities, he is an interloper, does not belong to the *caste*, and will be hunted down like a magpie among rooks. It is necessary, likewise, that the person who wishes to succeed to our Hospitals should be "pigeon livered," and the less he has of honour the better. He must be religious, in appearance, and punctually perform his prostrations before the reigning fools of the day. He must watch over the "interests of the charity," and tell the truth, *sometimes*, but it is ten to one if, consistently with his interest, he ever have occasion to do it. He should be entirely ignorant of the practice of physic, and the fewer operations he performs upon the living body the better; or, at least, he should calculate to a nicety how long the patient may survive, and perform

the operation exactly twelve hours previous to his dissolution; but this should only be done with hernia, and a few other cases, for if it be diseased ancle-joint, it will be better to let the patient alone, for God only knows how long he may linger. It will do him infinite credit if he aid and abet in every thing that is vile and dishonourable; and finally, that man will bear the *bell* who has the fewest of the good qualities of our nature and most of the bad—who wants honour, honesty, humanity, and a heart!

ELECTION OF SURGEON TO ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL.

The Election of Surgeon to this Institution took place on Friday, the third inst. and the Candidates on the occasion were Messrs. JEFFREYS and SLEIGH; the former of whom, as it would appear, claimed the situation by a sort of prescriptive right, whilst the latter maintained, that "worth only makes the man," and that the most efficient candidate ought to be elected; and it cannot be denied, by the most besotted of the Governors, that this principle is extremely just, and that the right claimed by Mr. JEFFREY is extremely unjust. Our readers must know that there is a Baronet, yclepcd Sir EVERARD HOME, and that the said baronet, being unable to perform the duties of a surgeon to the Institution, or for some other reason, is favoured with an Assistant; this assistant is not *elected* by the governors at large, but is first appointed by the worthy baronet, and his appointment is confirmed by the Board of Governors, who superintend the concerns of the Hospital. We shall not stay to inquire whether Sir Everard Home be *capable of selecting* a competent person for an assistant, or whether, if he be capable, he is *likely* to select the most efficient that can be found, for those who are acquainted with Sir Everard and the Hospital must know, that he is incapable of doing the first, and is *not* likely to accomplish the second; but this we do say, that to allow one surgeon to choose another (for it amounts to this) is not at all compatible with our notions of justice or propriety, and that it is leaving too much to any man, or any surgeon, the management of the Institution, and by consequence of the patients who may be sent to it. Sir Everard Home has, *virtually*, appointed Surgeons to St. George's Hospital, for the last 17 years. Of the late Mr. Ewbank we shall say nothing, except that, as a man, we had a great regard for him, but of Mr. Jeffrey, we must observe, that the case of James Wheeler, which we published a few weeks since, is, to say the least of it, most disgraceful to himself and to St. George's Hospital; and this brings us more particularly to the proceedings on the day of election, or rather of *installation*, for according to the present system, Sir Everard has it all his own way, [which is very likely to be the *wrong* way,] on the day of election.

Several Governors having given

their votes, Mr. SLEIGH rose, and requested to be allowed to address the Chairman, who appealed to the Governors present, whether Mr. Sleigh should be permitted to speak! The general feeling appeared to be against it; but Lord CLIFDEN, and another Governor, declaring that it would be more fair, honourable, and manly to hear him, he was allowed to proceed. He observed, that "the Hospital being a public institution, intended to procure the greatest possible amount of good, it was desirable that its duties should be performed by the *best qualified person*, and since a public examination only could decide the merits of the candidates, he demanded a public examination, and threw down the gauntlet to his competitors. He cared not who the examiners were, or who should be the judges. The medical men of the Hospital, he added, might examine, and, together with the whole body of Governors, might judge."—(The challenge was not accepted.)

Mr. SLEIGH, in his speeches and in his printed appeals to the Governors, has charged—1st. Sir Everard Home "with bringing in Medical Officers from interest, instead of awarding the palm to merit." To this charge no reply was attempted, either by Sir Everard Home himself or by any one else.

2. He charged the Surgeons of St. George's Hospital with "curing fewer, out of the aggregate number of patients, than those of any other Hospital, drawing materials for the charge from their own official statement, and from the official statements of other Hospitals." To this charge three replies were attempted.

1. One Gentleman declared, that "a greater number of *desperate* cases was brought to St. George's than to other Hospitals."

In support of this assertion, nothing can be gathered *a priori*, nor did the gentleman endeavour to prop it up by any argument drawn from facts. The declaration must therefore be regarded as a mere assertion, and Mr. Sleigh's charge as having *prima facie* evidence in its favour. But this declaration was not only not shown to be correct, but was shown to be positively incorrect, inasmuch as one of the Hospitals with which St. George's was compared was the Fever Hospital, which surely equals any Hospital in London in point of "desperate cases".

Another Gentleman suggested, that "While St. George's Hospital included under the term '*dead*' all who actually had died, whether buried at the expence of the Hospital or at the expence of their friends, other Hospitals possibly include under the term 'dead,' those only who are buried at the Hospital's expence." "*Possibly*," declares the Gentleman, "it *may* be so," but *positively* it is *not* so. Since, then, this possibility (which, like a two edged sword, cuts both ways) must be allowed to be no argument, Mr. Sleigh's charge rests on the Hospital in its full weight.

3. Another Gentleman suggested, "That St. George's Hospital was less favourable to health than other Hospitals in point of *building*."

4. Mr. Sleigh charged the medical officers of the Hospital with "*ignorance*, or *neglect*, or *both*, in reference to Wheeler, who lost his life by the tight bandages," &c. &c.

To this charge *one* reply was attempted; a gentleman asserted (for he gave no proof) "that the man died, not from mortification, but from *inflammation* of the lungs,* and that the statement of THE LANCET was false." Mr. Sleigh answered him by pointing out the solemn verdict of the Jury, and the opinion of the medical gentleman who was examined. Mr. S. declared, that for the character of the Medical Gentlemen of the Hospital, and of his competitors in particular, he felt a high respect; attributing the fault, which he felt himself bound, from regard to himself, to the public, and to his supporters, to lay before the Governors, not so much to the *men* as to the *system*.

"Human nature," said Mr. S. "is human nature, and the medical officers of this Hospital have done no more than almost every other man would do, had he the opportunity. The medical men have irresponsible power, and they have partially abused it; had another man or myself the same power, he or I should perhaps have committed the same abuse. I call upon the Governors, therefore, not so much to blame their medical officers, as to render them responsible."

Mr. S. again and again challenged his competitors to a public trial of their surgical skill, &c. &c. He would refer them to the books of the University of Dublin, Edinburgh, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, and, *if it were an honour*, he was a Member of the Royal College of Surgeons in London. He should consider the non-acceptance of his challenge as a tacit acknowledgment on the part of the Governors, that they were electing the inferior man, and, on the part of his competitors, that they feared him. Every man knew the examination for Assistant Surgeon ten years ago.* He boasted not in taking off limbs, but in saving them. He must certainly, under present circumstances, feel prouder of his not being elected than of his appointment.

The medical friends of Mr. JEFFREYS had each his friend, so between them they mustered 116 votes for Mr. J. while the majority (there being 600 Governors) were, by Mr. Sleigh's conduct, rendered neutral, and he deserves great credit for his spirited exertions in the cause of *humanity*.

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* "Why, then, was the wine and brandy administered?"—LANCET.

* Mr. Jeffreys has been assistant surgeon in the army.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

ANALYSIS OF FOREIGN MEDICAL JOURNALS.

GERMAN JOURNALS.

Chemical examination of the Changes which Substances undergo in their passage through the circulation, and in their excretion by the Kidneys.

THE work from which this paper is extracted was commenced during the last year, by Professor TIEDEMANN,* G. TREVIRANUS, and L. TREVIRANUS, men of considerable reputation on the Continent, although the first is better known in this country. The work is entitled, a "Journal of Physiology,"† and is somewhat similar in its arrangement to the *Journal de Physiologie*, published in France by MAGENDIE. It is intended to embody the most recent discoveries made by the German physiologists, and from their well known reflective and industrious habits, it is exceedingly probable that it will become the first Physiological Journal of Europe. We shall, from time to time, avail ourselves of the information it may afford, and shall take care to furnish our readers with what is interesting in it *early*. Now, without pretending to any "wonderful celerity," we are anxious to communicate to the profession of this country the *most recent* opinions and discoveries of our scientific brethren in France, Germany, and Italy; and from the arrangements which we have made, we feel confident in declaring that our Journal will *continue to take the lead*, in furnishing the Continental intelligence. We have been, certainly, somewhat surprised to see paragraphs creeping into the pages of our cotemporaries, as great novelties, which had appeared in the pages of THE LANCET three and four months previously.

The above mentioned researches into the nature of the substances voided in the urine were undertaken by Dr. WOCHLER, of Heidelberg, in consequence of the Faculté of Medicine of Heidelberg having proposed, as a prize question, the following:—

"What substances introduced into the human body, or into the bodies of animals, by the mouth, or by the absorbents, are to be found in the urine, and what conclusions are to be drawn from their presence in that fluid?"

Dr. WOCHLER's proved to be the best answer furnished to the society, and consequently was pronounced the prize essay.

In the first part of the memoir the author has reported such experiments as have been made by himself, or by his particular friends; and in the second, he has given the inferences which he considers may be legitimately drawn from them. We shall only have room in the present number to present a condensed analysis of the first division of the work, and must postpone the insertion of the remainder to a future opportunity.

Iodine.—The author has had frequent opportunities of observing this substance, in the urine of a dog, to which he had given, for some days, several grains of this substance. It

* Journal der Physiologie von Prof. Tiedemann, &c. 1824.

† See his *Tabula Uteri Nervorum*, &c.

was found in the state of hydriodic acid.

He gave a bitch, at the time she was suckling her puppies, four grains of iodine dissolved in alcohol, and in five hours he detected the presence of iodine in the stomach and in the urine of one of the puppies, which was removed for the purpose of examination.

TIEDEMANN and GMELIN have recently found iodine in the urine of a horse, to which they had before given an ounce of the hydriodate of potash in solution.

Carbonated Alcalies.—Alcalies being frequently used, especially the carbonates, in cases of calculi, it was not difficult to obtain opportunities for examining whether such substances were contained in the urine. They were found there, but it must be at the same time recollected, that the urine contains naturally some alcalies, as chalk, magnesia, and soda.

Hydrosulphate of Potash.—The urine of a horse was examined, to which an ounce of the liver of sulphur had been given four hours before; the urine was found very alcaline, but it had not the particular odour of sulphurated hydrogen; however, it blackened a paper which had before been dipped in a solution of acetate of lead. In its passage through the kidneys the hydrosulphuret appeared to be changed into a sulphate of potash.

The urine of a little dog, in whose food a drachm of sulphur had been mixed, blackened a piece of paper which had been previously dipped in the solution of acetate of lead.

Chlorate of Potash.—The analysis of the urine of a dog, to which a drachm of the chlorate of potash had been previously given, showed the presence of this salt. This substance exerts, no injurious effect upon the stomach or alimentary canal, but appears to increase the alvine secretion, at the same time that it encourages an increased secretion of urine.

Nitrate of Potash.—To an old horse, about to be killed, was given a solution of five ounces of nitre; in four hours the animal was killed, and the urine having been reduced, by evaporation, to the consistence of syrup, was found, on cooling, to deposit some brownish-coloured crystals, which had all the characters of the crystals of the nitrate of potash. Many other examples are cited by the author, which leave no doubt of the immediate passage of this salt in the urine.

Prussian Blue, or a Prussiate of Potash and Iron.—Twenty grains of this salt were given to a little dog, and in five hours afterwards the dog was killed. It was found that a part of the iron had been lost in its passage through the alimentary canal, as the excrements voided were made blue. However, there was a considerable quantity found in the urine.

Borax.—TIEDEMANN and GMELIN gave a horse a pound of borax in solution; three hours after the horse was killed. The urine was evaporated, reduced to a carbonaceous mass, and made to detonate with nitre. After having saturated the residuum, and having evaporated it afresh, the alcohol in which it was made to boil burned with a blue flame, which was occasioned by the presence of the boracic acid.

Tartrate of Nickel and Potash.—Nickel was found in the urine of a dog which had been made to swallow some of this salt, but it was found as the sulphuret of nickel.

Oxalic Acid.—Two drachms of oxalic acid, in powder, were mixed with the food given to a dog; the animal did not show any uneasiness. Eight days after the urine was analysed, and did not exhibit more acid than ordinary; it deposited, on cooling, a white powder, formed of small crystals, which resembled the ammoniaco magnesian phosphate; this precipitate was found to be composed of the oxalate of lime.

Tartaric Acid.—The urine of a dog, to which two drachms of the acid had been given, furnished, by evaporation, small crystals of the tartrate of lime.

Citric and Malic Acids.—These acids were found in considerable quantity in the urine voided by patients who had been allowed to drink freely of lemonade. The acids were obtained in a free state by first saturating them with lime-water, and then decomposing the product by sulphuric acid.—

Monteggini has reported cases to the same effect, and he says that he has found these two acids and the oxalic acid in the urine after the use of the solanum tycopersicum.

Gallic Acid.—A drachm of this acid was given to a dog, a third part of which was again vomited; in five hours it was found in such quantity in the urine that a single drop of the hydrochlorate of iron seemed to make the fluid of a dark blue colour.

Succinic Acid.—The urine of a dog when examined, about four hours after half a drachm of this acid had been taken, was found to be very alcaline, and to effervesce with the acids. The hydroclorate of iron caused a thick precipitate to be thrown down of a brown colour, which being washed and dried, and then boiled in water, separated succinate of iron.

Benzoic Acid.—It is not yet known whether this acid exists naturally in the urine of some animals or not, or whether it is introduced by the food taken into the stomach, especially in the herbivorous animals. M. Vogel has informed us, that it is to be found in the urine of the rhinoceros, but not in that of the elephant; yet these animals feed very much on the same species of nourishment. The existence of this acid, however, in the urine of the young animals, nourished only by the milk of the parent, appears to favour the first opinion, namely, that it is formed naturally in the urine. On the other hand, it is said, that some of the plants on which these animals feed, particularly the melilotus officinalis, are found to contain large quantities of this acid. However that may be, the following experiment proves, incontrovertably, that if benzoic acid be introduced into the stomach, it passes, unaltered and in great quantity, in the urine. Half a drachm of benzoic acid was given to a dog, which had before taken some nitre; in about five hours the urine which was passed was examined, and found to contain, when evaporated, crystals of benzoate of potash.

Vegetable Alcalies.—Dr. Marcet has stated, that the vegetable acids are decomposed during the process of assimilation, but the experiments of Wochler prove the contrary, as it can be easily seen that they pass the kidneys unaltered. Dr. Wochler took a drachm of the acetate of soda; in about an hour the urine which passed was examined, and found to be acid; that which was passed in two hours was alcaline, and effervesced on the addition of acids; in three hours it had lost its alcaline character, and had again become acid; many other experiments showed the same results.

From experiments made on the cream of tartar, soluble tartar, and the other tartrates, it was found that they became, in their passage through the kidneys, converted into carbonated salts. The urine, which becomes alcaline by the use of vegetable salts, is found to be pretty much loaded with calcareous phosphates. The use of cherries was found to make the urine very alcaline, and by incorporation of a pound of the sweet cherry, a large quantity of soda was obtained. In general, observes the author, the fruits which contain alcaline salts make the urine alcaline, whilst those, on the contrary, in which a free acid exists, do not appear to exert a proportional influence.

These experiments will become useful in enabling us to prescribe with precision such substances as we wish to reach the kidneys and bladder in their active state, and may consequently lead to some considerable improvement in the treatment of that distressing complaint, the stone. The subject has not yet been concluded by Wochler, and as soon as the continuation reaches us, we shall furnish an account of it.

ANNALI UNIVERS. DI MEDICINA. JAN. & FEB. 1825.

Rupture of the Uterus; escape of the Fœtus into the Abdominal Cavity; Operation performed; recovery of the Mother.

The account of this case was furnished to Omodei by Dr. Louis Frank, physician to Maria Louisa, duchess of Parma, and although the particulars are stated in a very loose manner,

these circumstances are worthy of observation; 1st, The operation was performed, although we are not told how; 2dly, The mother recovered, but the time is not stated, although we are told that she was able to go out at the end of forty days; 3dly, The woman became again pregnant, and was safely delivered. Had such a case occurred in this country, it would certainly have been served up in folio, instead of being wedged in at the fag-end of a monthly periodical.

Angela Grossi, forty-four years of age, a native of Parma, having been safely delivered of five children, became pregnant for the sixth time, and arrived almost to the termination of gestation, without any unfavourable symptom. On the 9th of August, during the morning, she began to feel some uneasiness; she got up, however, and moved about, and a short time after was seized all of a sudden with faintness and vomiting. The persons in the room immediately laid her on the bed, and in doing so, let her fall rather suddenly. Although the patient complained of faintness, it was not so complete as to prevent her from knowing what was done, and the sensation which she described to be produced when she was laid upon the bed, was like a violent stretching of the abdomen, or as if she had felt two children. In the mean time the abdomen began to swell, the vomiting did not cease, and the respiration became more and more difficult. The friends immediately sent for Professor Rossi, who, on his arrival, from the appearance of the patient, and the history of the case, pronounced it to be a rupture of the uterus. A consultation was held, at which Professor CICCONI was present, and it was determined to perform an operation for the liberation of the fœtus. The operation was begun about two hours after the uterus had given way, by CICCONI. An incision was made in the left hypogastric region, over that point at which the feet of the fœtus appeared to project. The extent of the incision, and the direction in which it was made, are not stated, which are certainly two very great defects in the description; however, it is said, that as soon as the incision was made, the feet presented themselves, and that the fœtus and afterbirth were gradually and safely removed through the opening. Here, again, is a great chasm in the history of the case, but we shall endeavour to get further particulars respecting it. The account goes on to say, that in forty days the patient was able to go out, and that the natural secretion of the uterus returned. In about three years after this operation, she became again pregnant, and was delivered safely at seven months; the child only lived a few days.

The cicatrix of the wound made in the abdominal parietes had allowed of the formation of a hernia of the size of a large apple, which had not given rise to any particular inconvenience.

A case showing the efficacy of the Hydriodate of Potash in cutaneous Carcinoma.

A woman, about fifty years of age, had a cancerous ulceration of the left breast near the nipple; when she went into the Hospital, the surgeon under whose care she was admitted proposed to amputate the part, but to that she would not consent. "I then advised," says Dr. EDWARD GRAEFE, "the wound to be drest with an ointment containing a drachm of the hydriodate of potass in two ounces of the rose ointment, with which the wound was drest once in the day. The appearance of the wound soon began to improve; the hardened edge and irregular surface began to be much smoother than before. I increased the strength of the ointment one half; I mixed one drachm of this preparation of iodine with one ounce of the ointment, and the manner in which the wound healed was surprising; in nine weeks from the time the ointment was first applied, the patient was quite well.

"In the cancerous ulcer of the upper lip, I have found the application of this ointment attended with the best effect."—*Graefe and Walther's Journal der Chirurgy*, 1825.

HOSPITAL REPORTS.

MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL.

The complete *exposé* which we have recently made of the *defective surgery* at this institution has produced conviction in the minds of some of the Governors, that one of two things must inevitably happen; either that the individual shown to be incompetent for his situation must tender his resignation, or that, if he remain, the business of the Treasurer will be considerably abridged.

We pledge ourselves that the cases given from this Hospital are *accurately reported*; and it is not because we attach any importance to the assertion of the present House Surgeon, but because that assertion stands in opposition to the Junior Surgeon's insinuation to the contrary, that we state that they have been *acknowledged by him to be particularly accurate* at his late examination before a weekly board. We repeat that the cases *are accurately reported*, and therefore the fault is not ours if they prove otherwise than creditable to the reputation of the party concerned.

Notwithstanding the acknowledged accuracy of the cases, the greatest anxiety has been manifested by the surgeons to prevent their publication, and that anxiety has been in direct proportion to the consciousness of their ignorance, and of their neglect of a public duty. No trick has been unresorted to, no artifice has been left untried, especially by the Senior and Junior Surgeons, to discover the channel through which we have obtained our information, and, among other methods, they chose to employ the present House Surgeon as a *spy* upon the conduct of the residents and visitors. This honourable office one Mr. TUSON has for many months filled with great *credit* to himself, and with *so much satisfaction* to the weekly board, that they lately passed a *vote of censure* on this "nice young gintleman"* for a gross *neglect* of his official *duty*! So it appears, whilst he was skulking about as a spy, he was neglecting his care of the living, and allowing other persons to *extract teeth* from the *dead*. With great difficulty this said House Surgeon insinuated himself into the company and confidence of a gentleman with whom we are *totally unacquainted*, and with whom we have *never had* the *least communication*, but from whom, by the grossest treachery, certain expressions of opinion have been elicited, which, by the most fraudulent misrepresentations, have been deemed by his employers sufficient to identify the individual alluded to as the person so long sought after. These worthies have been disappointed already *more than once*, and they will find their present pretended discovery as much a failure as any of their preceding. We shall continue to discharge that duty which we owe to the profession, by holding up to their observation the competency or incompetency of the surgeons of the

* "Nice young gintleman," a title given by Mr. BELL to the person who is called by the pupils and others frequenting the Hospital, "TUSON *the spy*."

metropolitan hospitals, and, by doing so, afford an opportunity to those pupils who must come to such institutions for information, of ascertaining at which of them that information is to be obtained.

Continuation of the Case of Strangulated Inguinal Hernia, from p. 318.

9th June. The patient complains of having passed a restless night.—Pulse 84, and tongue furred. He took a dose of calomel and opium last night. The wound was dressed today and looked very healthy, the upper half having united. As the bowels have not been relieved since yesterday morning, a common purgative enema was ordered to be administered immediately.

10th. The bowels have been well acted upon, and the patient is going on favourably.

12th. Much the same; no bad symptom; the wound has been dressed to-day, and is healing fast.

Case of Concussion of the Brain.

Jane Standon, a middle aged woman, of spare habit, admitted into the Hospital on the evening of 26th May. About two hours before, whilst in the act of getting down from a stage coach, her foot slipped, and she fell with considerable force on the back part of her head. She was rendered completely insensible by the blow, and in this state taken to a neighbouring surgeon, who *bled* her, or at least attempted to do so, for in this state it is not surprising that blood would not flow from the orifice.*—When admitted into the Hospital she had a pale countenance; a cold skin; a feeble pulse, about 54, with nausea; there was considerable puffiness of the scalp over the occiput and left parietal bone, and blood was issuing from both ears. The head was ordered to be shaved (by the House Surgeon) and *cold lotion* to be constantly applied!

27th. Some degree of re-action having taken place, we find the pulse increased this morning, being about 64, and soft; tongue covered with white fur. She lies inattentive to external impressions, apparently sleeping; when roused, she answers incoherently and complains of pain in the head, with giddiness and tinnitus aurium. She has taken a purgative draught and the bowels have been well acted upon.

28th. Much the same; complains of great pain in the head, over the left parietal bone. Pulse 64, and soft; pupils natural.

Appl. hirud. xij. *temporibus.*
Rep. haust. purgans.

℞ *Liq. amm. acet.* ʒiij.
Sp. æth. nit. ʒiij.
Vin. ant. tart. ʒiss.
Mist. camphor. ʒix. ft. mist.
Cap. coch. amp. iv. 6*tis horis.*

30th. Still complaining of pain in the head, but was much relieved by the leeches.

The tinnitus aurium is very distressing, and she still continues drowsy. Skin hot and face flushed. Let her repeat the purgative and be cupped on the back of the neck to 12 oz.

June 1. Much better; tongue clean; bowels well open; still complains of giddiness. She is kept upon spare diet; the bowels regulated; and up to the period of our present report is going on well.

[*To be continued.*]

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* Mr. C. Bell, in vol. 1 of his "Operative Surgery," when treating of Concussion, has a note to the following effect:—"In this stage (that is, immediately after the injury) the surgeon bleeds—the *landlady* (quere *matron*) gives her dram; I think the landlady right." Is this one of Mr. C. Bell's "sly hits" at his *Senior Colleague?* for we well remember a poor man being brought into the Hospital, about *two years since*, labouring under the immediate effects of severe concussion, being *completely insensible*, and when visited by the Head Surgeon, he directed the patient to be bled; "*but don't bleed him to syncope*" added this Senior Surgeon of the Middlesex Hospital!!!
(Notes from the unpublished MSS.)

No accidents of importance have been admitted this week.

The "Supreme Junta" of the Middlesex Hospital, supposing themselves to have been successful in the discovery of the author of "Joe-Burniana," have appointed a Committee for the purpose of discovering the author of Junius's Letters; it is already hinted that *suspicion* has fallen upon Mr. JOE-BURNS, and Mr. TUSON, his spy, is coming forward to prove that Joe "is the man."

"Suspicion is a just ground for inquiry." JUNIUS.

BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL.

Thomas Herwick, æt. 22, was admitted some time ago into Henry's Ward, under the care of Mr. LAWRENCE. In appearance he is tall and thin, light hair, and sallow complexion. He complained of nothing but simple enlargement of his left testicle, which he said first became so affected about nine months ago, and from that time gradually increased in size. To the touch it was particularly hard and firm, and very heavy, about the size of an extremely large orange. Mr. L. immediately suspected the disease was of the fungoid character, and his suspicions were confirmed, when, on examining the cord, he found it much thickened, and the inguinal glands enlarged.

Mr. TODD, of Dublin, the anatomist, who saw the case with Mr. LAWRENCE, thought it was hydrocele, though to us it presented no character of that disease, and recommended it to be punctured. This was done a few days after, but, as was anticipated, no *water* flowed, and only as much blood as might proceed from a wound in any other part of the body. The testicle continued evidently to increase in size daily, and upon examining carefully the lower part of the abdomen, a large lump was discovered, which left no further doubt as to the true nature of the complaint. The patient took nothing but a little opening medicine. His countenance now became more sallow, and accompanied with an expression of extreme anxiety.

On Friday, the 3d instant, he had a severe attack of fever, for which he was ordered in the morning the saline medicine; toward the evening, the fever being unabated, it was thought advisable he should lose twelve ounces of blood from the arm; about 8 o'clock, p. m. he discharged involuntarily a great quantity of blood and coagula from the rectum; a catheter was introduced, but no urine came away. He died at 11 the same evening, quite sensible and without a struggle.

Post Mortem Examination.

Mr. L. examined the body on Saturday at 2 o'clock, in presence of a number of students. On opening the chest, the lungs presented a number of black eminences of different sizes, which, upon being cut open, exhibited the black colour and soft consistence of fungus hæmatodes; several of these were found in each lung. The liver, which was of a much lighter colour than usual, presented tubercles similar in structure and appearance to those found in the lungs. The *right kidney* was also diseased, and here the fungoid substance assumed the form of the medullary character; it was much softer, exactly resembling fœtal brain, of a dark brown and black colour. On the left side, the descending colon was found enveloped in a mass of diseased mesenteric glands, descending nearly into the pelvis. This mass was taken out, together with the kidney, and on being cut into, the same morbid appearances were observed, except that the kidney was not affected. On examining the small intestines, a portion of jejunum was found full of coagula, and a large fungoid tumor, having formed between the coats, had ulcerated its way through the mucous membrane, thus satisfactorily accounting for the bloody evacuation before death. The chain of glands in the course of the external iliac, were not larger than usual, but were changed in colour, resembling the bronchial glands. The testicle was hard and firm, and particularly smooth, from which last circumstance it might have been mistaken for hydrocele, as in general the fungous testicle is tuberculated. On being cut open, the same appearance

was presented, as in the lungs and liver, but more consistent. The brain seemed natural in appearance, and free from disease.

The accidents admitted this week, are a broken arm, dislocation of the scapular end of the clavicle—two burns—several patients with broken ribs—a man kicked by a horse on the forehead—a man fallen from a scaffold thirty feet high—broken radius—broken ribs—broken radius and ulna—a man with a contused wound in his thigh—severe sprained ancle—a child having swallowed spirits of turpentine, for the extraction of which Reid's stomach pump was used—broken fore-arm—a man with retention of urine—a boy with part of the parietal, frontal, and temporal bones, driven in by a kick from a horse, and a case of strangulated inguinal hernia of very large size.

We cannot conclude our report without paying our humble tribute to the great urbanity and politeness which characterize Mr. LAWRENCE in his intercourse with his pupils; it is his constant endeavour to instruct and improve them. On the present occasion he was most anxious that every person present should have a perfect view and ample explanation of the morbid parts. We are naturally led to make this observation, as such treatment forms a striking contrast to that talented *singularity* and *rudeness* exhibited by the nominal* head of this school.

GUY'S HOSPITAL.

Case of Stricture of the Œsophagus.

J. Harper, ætat. 36, was admitted into Luke's Ward June 1, under the care of Mr. MORGAN, with stricture of the œsophagus. The patient was of a thin spare appearance, his habits had been temperate and regular. He has been engaged in agricultural pursuits, and consequently exposed to the vicissitudes of temperature. About five months ago he caught cold, and had a difficulty of swallowing; a blister was applied to the throat, which, for the time relieved him. Soon after he was again exposed to the cold, and he again found a slight difficulty in swallowing, which gradually increased till about a month ago, when he lost the power of swallowing solids. His principal support is from the yolk of eggs beat up with milk, of which he can only swallow a little at a time, and that with great difficulty. He has no pain, rests well at nights, and his general health is not much disturbed.

On the following day, Mr. MORGAN passed an œsophagus bougie, and found a stricture which was very narrow, but not very firm. Ordered to take the following mixture:

℞ *Inf. Menth.* ʒviiss.
Tinct. Hyoscyam. ʒiv. M. *ft. mistura cujus. Capiat. coch. mag.* ij. *quartâ quâque horâ;*

and to apply a blister to the throat.

6th. The bougie has been passed every other day; the medicine before ordered has been continued, with aperients. He finds his swallowing a little improved, his appetite is now very good, and he feels an inclination to eat meat, if he had the power of swallowing.

(*To be continued.*)

The operations performed here this week are—an amputation above the knee, the removal of a scirrhous tumour from the nates, by Mr. KEY.

Securing the femoral artery for popliteal aneurism, and laying open the tunica vaginalis testis for hæmatocele, by Mr. B. COOPER.

ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL.

Case of Compound Fracture of the Tibia.

Benjamin Johnson, ætat. 23, admitted April 27, into Jacob's Ward, under the care of Mr. TYRRELL, with compound fracture of the right tibia, and a simple fracture of the fibula, about two inches above the malleoli. The accident was occasioned by a

* We say nominal, for of course it would be insulting our readers to suppose them ignorant of the vast superiority of LAWRENCE—a superiority so apparent, that any attempt at demonstration would be ridiculous.

cart being thrown over whilst loading it with flint. When admitted, there was a small wound, with a sharp piece of bone projecting; the sharp piece was removed, and the bones easily replaced, by relaxing the gastrocnemii. The bones were retained in these positions by the usual splints and bandages, and the limb was placed in a semiflexed position upon the heel. The patient is doing well.

Case of Fracture of the Left Parietal Bone, with Depression.

Wm. Smith, ætatis 21, admitted into Luke's Ward, April 21, under the care of Mr. TYRRELL, with the dura-mater exposed from the removal of a portion of the left parietal bone, by trephining; he is of a sanguineous temperament and regular habits; states, that about last August, being engaged in stacking hay, he was desired to catch a large bottle, which was projected from a considerable height for that purpose; by the incautious manner with which it was thrown, it struck him upon the left parietal bone, wounded the scalp, fractured and depressed the bone; he immediately became comatose, and remained in that state until he had a piece of bone removed, and the depressed portion raised; the integuments were brought over the opening and retained in their position by straps of adhesive plaster; after a long continuance of the common applications no union of the divided scalp took place; there was a considerable discharge; during this time his general health continued good, appetite regular, he slept well at nights, had no pain in the part, and felt no inconvenience; but from the open state of the wound when admitted into the Hospital, there was a considerable separation of the edges of the scalp, so that the whole of the aperture, and a portion of the bone at the lower part was exposed; there was a considerable, but healthy, discharge of pus; the cerebral pulsations were distinctly visible, and the granulations upon the dura-mater were healthy; the exposed portions of bone appeared also to be quite healthy. He was ordered to apply a lotion of *lime water and mucilage* to the part, and the wound to be dressed with a pledget of lint; the patient is doing well; the exposed portion of bone is covered; granulations have risen from the dura-mater, and the wound is cicatrizing.

There have been no operations performed here this week.

The accidents admitted this week are—injuries to the head, face, knee, foot, a severe injury to the back, and a simple fracture of the humerus.

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